

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO
REVISE AND EXTEND REMARKS

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN) be permitted to revise and extend his remarks and insert extraneous material into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 7, 2011

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. on Monday, November 7, 2011; when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 10, 2011; and when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, November 14, 2011.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO NA-
TIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
REVIEW OF THE RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS OF
THE UNITED STATES INTEL-
LIGENCE COMMUNITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HAYWORTH). The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 1002 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 (P.L. 107-306) as amended by section 701(a)(3) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (P.L. 111-259), and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, of the following Member of the House to the National Commission for the Review of the Research and Development Programs of the United States Intelligence Community:

Mr. CONAWAY, Texas

TRIBUTE TO JOHN MILTON
KRINER II

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on October 9, 2011, a good friend and long-time scout, John Milton Kriner II, passed away at the age of 53. A life marked with accomplishment and overcoming barriers, John was born in 1958 with Down syndrome. Despite life's challenges, John and his parents, John and Betta, always focused on the possible, not the limitations.

He graduated from State College Area High School, went on to receive certification from Centre County Vocational and Hiram G. Andrews Technical Schools, and was later employed by the

State Area College School District. A member of Troop 339, Boy Scouts of America, John received the Eagle Scout with Gold Palm, Silver Beaver Award, Unit Commissioner, Honorary Camp Director, and Wood Badge Beaver Awards. He attended four BSA national jamborees, serving as a staff member, was a Vigil Honor member of the Monaken Lodge, Order of the Arrow, and an honorary member of Penn State University's Alpha Phi Omega. John was a member of the Grace Lutheran Church, where he served as an usher, greeter, and was a member of Disciples Sunday school class. He was also a State Special Olympic silver, bronze, and gold medal winner in swimming. John Kriner was a true inspiration to all who knew him. Well done, Scouter.

VFW 1—VETERANS
ADMINISTRATION 0

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, during the hot days of last summer, the Veterans of Foreign Wars went to battle with the Veterans Administration. The VFW claimed the VA was censoring free speech and preventing the free exercise of religion at the National Cemetery in Houston. The VFW says the chapel at the cemetery was closed. The Bible, the cross, the Star of David were removed, and the chapel became a storage shed. VFW members also said the director of the cemetery censored prayers and prohibited the religious ceremony during burial of veterans.

The VFW sued the VA, and the VA naturally denied the whole thing. Recently, a Federal judge approved and agreed to an order requiring the chapel to be reopened, the Bible, the cross, the Star of David to be returned, and said that the VA must not interfere with free speech or the free exercise of religion at burials.

Madam Speaker, it is ironic that Americans have gone to war, fought for the principles of the Constitution; then when they come home, they face government hostility and the denial of First Amendment rights to the citizens when these veterans are buried in VA cemeteries. Now the veterans have won a battle against a government that wanted to deny them the American freedoms they fought for in lands far, far away.

And that's just the way it is.

CONSCIENCE RIGHTS

(Mr. FORTENBERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, the Department of Health and Human Services recently proposed a rule that would require all health plans to cover in full and, consequently, every American to subsidize procedures

and drugs that are unrelated to medical necessity, traditionally considered electives, and can be very ethically divisive for many Americans. Why when 75 cents on every public health care dollar is spent on the management of chronic conditions, such as cancer, heart disease, and stroke, is the Health and Human Services Department prioritizing free sterilization, for instance?

This is distinctly unrelated to our Nation's health care priority challenges. I can only conclude that this is ideologically driven and most perniciously affects faith-based institutions who are the backstop of compassionate care for the poorest and most vulnerable in society. Many Republicans and Democrats have expressed very serious concerns about this. No American should be forced to choose between their faith and their job.

REGIONAL HAZE MANAGEMENT

(Mr. BERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BERG. Madam Speaker, with each new overreaching one-size-fits-all mandate, the Obama administration continues to burden the States with unnecessary costs and regulations that are hindering job creation. That's why today I introduced the Regional Haze Federalism Act. This will rein in the Obama administration and prevent a Federal takeover of State haze management.

States like North Dakota continue to act responsibly to create well-researched plans and to implement EPA-mandated policies; yet it's clear that these efforts to play by the rules aren't enough for the Obama administration. The administration's overreach would cost North Dakota over \$700 million. Those costs will directly increase rates to our consumers across the State.

If we are truly committed to creating jobs and lowering energy costs, we need to empower the States and rein in President Obama's overreaching EPA.

HONORING CORPORAL JOSHUA
"J.B." KERNS

(Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Ladies and gentlemen of the House, I rise today, as we approach Veterans Day, to honor Corporal Joshua "J.B." Kerns. Corporal Kerns, from Ararat, Virginia, in Patrick County, served in the United States Marine Corps in the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 3rd Platoon. And one day in Afghanistan he, unfortunately, was hit with an IED explosion. This brave young man lost both legs and one arm.

One of the volunteers who worked with him as he recovered, Bert Caswell, working with Wounded Warriors, wrote a poem on his behalf, which I will put

into the RECORD, but I would like to read just a small piece of it. It's entitled "What I've Learned."

"And yet, you're only 21. But from you, Joshua, so much more I've learned, more than all my years under the sun! And that as long as we have such sons like you, and such families too, then our Nation will stand, yes, that old Red, White and Blue. And in our future, there's even more to learn from you!"

Thank you, Joshua "J.B." Kerns, and all of our soldiers who serve our Nation.

WHAT I'VE LEARNED
(By Bert Caswell)

CORPORAL JOSHUA B. KERNS, 2ND COMBAT ENGINEERS BATTALION, THE UNITED STATES MARINES

WHAT I'VE LEARNED

What . . .
What I've learned!
That in this our Country Tis of Thee, there are such most splendid souls as these!
Such Magnificent Men of Might, America's Bravest of all sons so bright like you J.B.!
United States Marines, who all so shine . . . all in their most Splendid Shades of Green!
As this is what I've learned!
And that a strong young courageous man, with his Brothers In Arms will go off to war . . . To Stand!
All for our Country Tis of Thee, will himself so ignore!
All for The Price of Freedom To So Insure!
And will so heroically walk through the valley of death, with but his own most sacred life so pledged!
And that his Brother In Arms will run straight into death, to get help for him . . . his most sacred gift to bless!
As did SST Rogers . . . who on that day, for you J. B. our world so left!
While, even when so close to death . . . with but only one arm left, I've learned!
That somehow still, you could summon up The Courage, The Strength, and The Iron Will!
To so cheat death, all with what was within your fine heart as etched!
With such power and might, and faith . . . to new heights to so teach us on each new day!
And that against all odds J.B., somehow you rose up to walk again . . . this most brilliant sight!
With but tears in your eyes, as your new life had begun . . . all on this most memorable night!
Is that not what Heaven is so for my son?
As this is What I've Learned!
That arms and legs, yea we all need . . . but we can survive!
But, without a magnificent heart like yours J. B.'s . . . we will so surely die!
And that, men who are armed with such courage and faith . . . can even make The Angel's cry!
No matter how dark each new day, with hearts of courage full . . . move onward, as do they!
To somehow! Someway! To rise up again, all out on their most heroic ways!
And, all of those magnificent families who so bare such heartache and pain . . .
Watching their loved ones courage, and will to live . . . as on their knees with tears they pray!
Will but in the darkest of all nights and days, will stand by them each hour will they!

For them too, one day Heaven so hold's a place . . . And I've learned that some men, are put upon this earth!

To So Teach Us, All In Their Fine True Worth!

As to my soul J. B., you've taught me what comes first!

And if I ever have a son, I wish he could shine as bright as you JB, this one!

One of Virginia's, most gallant of all sons!

As I cry, as I watch from where your great heart has so come!

Running to recovery, all up to new heights . . . all in what you have so done!

As you make me so weep my son!

Whenever, I so think of . . . those valleys, from which you've come!

As I watch all of those mountains so high, that you've climbed . . . As Thy Will Be Done!

As all of those promises to your fine soul, that you so made and kept my son!

As you Did Not Give Up! Did Not Give In! Did Not Moan, or Beg My Friend!

While, from a death bed, to a wheel chair . . . until those first steps, standing there!

As your precious Mother's tears did run!

As you walked again, as we've all learned so much from you JB . . . That, you are More Than A Man!

And, that you are a Marine's Marine . . . one of The Best Dam Things This Country Has Ever Seen!

Hoo . . . rah Jarhead . . . all in your Most Magnificent Shades of Green!

And yet, you're only twenty one . . . but from you Joshua so much more I've learned!

More, than all of my years under the sun!

And that as long as we have such sons like you, and such so families too!

Then, our Nation Will Stand . . . yes, That old Red, White and Blue!

And in the future, there's even more to learn from you!

□ 1420

THE THREAT OF A NUCLEAR
ARMED IRAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity, and I would like to thank the members of the House staff that are staying beyond voting hours for our opportunity to speak, and I promise that I will reward your efforts with brevity.

This is the end of another difficult week for a lot of Americans. For too many Americans, it's another week without a paycheck. For many Americans, this is the week their unemployment benefits will expire and they will have no income next week. For many Americans, this is the last weekend they'll be in their home because the foreclosure is about to be executed upon. And sadly, for many Americans, this might be the last time that he or she closes the doors on their business. This time they close it for good.

Our constituents and neighbors are hurting, hurting desperately, and I think there has been far too little attention paid to those problems here in

this institution. I hope that when we return after what is, parenthetically, our 12th recess of the year, we will get to work on the jobs problem for our country and try to put our people back to work.

As vital as that jobs crisis is, we can never put our country in a situation where we are not paying attention to threats to our security here at home and around the world. And I do want to spend a few moments this afternoon talking about what I think is a very significant threat, and that is the threat of Iran developing a nuclear weapon.

It is to the credit of the chairwoman of the international relations committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and the senior Democrat ranking member, Mr. BERMAN, that yesterday Republicans and Democrats on that committee came together to pass what I consider to be very powerful legislation that would work against the propagation of nuclear weapons by Iran. I hope that legislation is something that will be brought to the floor promptly and supported by Members from both sides. I think it is important to understand what more we could do and why it's so important to do it.

This is another productive day throughout our country. People are going to work in our cities and in our small towns and our suburbs. They are going to classes at universities and schools. They are visiting their loved ones in hospitals. It is, thank God, a normal day in America where we can do the things that we want to do. But, you know, a day 10 years ago in September of 2001 started like a normal day, too. September 11, 2001, was a beautiful, blue sky, crystalline day, and it ended as one of the worst days in the history of our country. The pain of that day is felt by people around this country not just in the New York metropolitan region, not just in Washington, D.C., not just in Pennsylvania, but around the country and around the world.

I fear and dread that a similar day could come from a scenario almost too terrible to imagine. Imagine a group of terrorists who are able to assemble a substantial amount of money but not an impossible amount of money—let's say about \$2 million—and they're able to commandeer the services of scientists who are evil enough or hungry enough that they would lend their skills to the destructive task of making a small nuclear device, what we call a small improvised explosive device, a nuclear IED. And they don't need a missile to deliver this nuclear IED; they need a U-Haul truck. So they assemble the IED and they load it on the back of a U-Haul truck, and they drive it to a place where there's a lot of innocent Americans: The National Mall right outside of this building, a sports arena for an NFL football game, Times Square, or a church or a synagogue or a mosque where people are about to